

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 and 10-11 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 11 are the independent claims. Claim 5 has been amended and claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Initially, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10 and 11 are allowed. Claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

II. THE REJECTION OF CLAIM 5 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER TSUCHIYA ET AL. (US 6,256,003) AND FURTHER IN VIEW OF YAMAGUCHI ET AL. (US 6,687,629)

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reason.

Independent claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 6. At page 3, item 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 6 contains allowable subject matter. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

III. CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

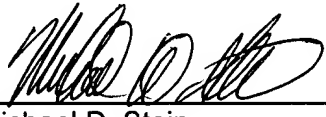
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 50-3333.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 10/20/05

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